(e) if so, what are the main programmes that have been undertaken during the year 1994-95 for implementing such programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) It is estimated about 2 lakhs persons are blind due to corneal disorders in India. Most of them can be cured through corneal transplantation. Presently about 14,000 eyes are collected annually and about 8,500 cornea grafting operation are done in India.

(c) The success of eye donation programme is sub-optimal in India because of socio-cultural factors, late reporting of death, poor transportation & communication facilities and limitation of availability of preservative media.

(d) and (e) Since 1986 a National Fortnight on eye donation is being observed every year from 25th August to 8th September to make a people aware about eye donation. Govt. also provides financial assistance for establishment and maintenance of eye banks in the country. During the year 1994-95, 10 additional eye banks in Govt. and 5 eye banks in voluntary sector are proposed to be set up and financed by Govt. of India.

Average deaths of children occurring daily due to malnutrition

2913. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of average daily deaths of children in the country due to malnutrition according to the estimation, if any, made by Government;

(b) what are the names of the States in which deaths of children due to malnutrition have shown increase stating the average number of daily deaths;

(c) what are the various programmes taken up so far to check deaths of children due to malnutrition and what according to the assessment, if any, are the shortcomings in the programme; and

(d) what strategy is contemplated by Government to bring down the daily death rate of children due to malnutrition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) Reliable information on deaths due to malnutrition is not available.

(c) and (d) The Government has adopted National Nutrition Policy which contains a comprehensive approach to tackle problem of malnutrition in the country through a set of direct nutritional interventions for specially vulnurable groups and indirect policy instruments involving institutional and structural changes.

The following schemes are being implemented as direct nutritional intervention for specially vulnerable groups:

(i) the Integrated Child Development Service;

(ii) Balwadi Nutrition Programme;

(iii) Scheme of creches/Day care Centres.

Raising of funds to achieve the targets of the programmes 'Health for All by 2000 A.D.'

2914. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets set under the programme Health for All by 2000 A.D. are likely to be achieved;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken to achieve the targets;